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ABSTRACT

A national survey of two-year colleges with residence hall programs was conducted to determine the size and scope of the programs; the availability of specialized housing; programs and services available within the housing system; the existence of policies on room assignments, fire and safety, damage and vandalism, security, discipline, room searches, drug/alcohol use, etc.; priorities and concerns unique to two-year college residence programs; and plans and anticipated challenges. Questionnaires were sent to the Chief Executive Officers of the 244 institutions with current residence hall systems. Study findings, based on responses from 77 public and 27 private two-year colleges (a 46.7% response rate) included the following: (1) most public institutions with residence halls were found in the South and in states with relatively low population concentration per square mile; (2) the housing systems tended to be small, with 80% of the colleges having less than 500 beds; (3) 92.2% of the housing systems did their own maintenance/custodial services in-house, but only 41% utilized in-house food services; (4) co-ed housing was available on 39 campuses; (5) 38 colleges had special housing for athletes, 17 for married students, 12 for international students, and 4 had institutionally sponsored sororities and fraternities; (6) 70 campuses had conference housing during the summer; (7) study lounges were available in 72 housing facilities, 36 had tutoring available, 17 had computer terminals, and 2 offered credit classes within the facility; and (8) alcohol and drug use, eating disorders, and wellness or fitness programs emerged as major concerns. A list of colleges willing to share residence hall policy statements is included. (EJV)

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RESIDENCE HALL SYSTEMS AT COMMUNITY AND JUNIOR COLLEGES

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RESIDENCE HALL SYSTEMS AT COMMUNITY AND JUNIOR COLLEGES

It has come to our attention that a surprisingly large number of public and private community, junior, and technical colleges have residence halls systems. Yet virtually nothing is widely known about this enterprise.

How many two-year colleges operate housing systems? How large are they? Are the priorities and challenges of residence halls on two-year campuses the same as those at four-year campuses? What housing needs and services characterize the two-year college residence hall? A survey has been designed and conducted by Vincennes University to help collect needed information and answer these and other questions.

The Population and Sample

A total of 317 two-year colleges reporting "days per week for board" in a NCES publication ("College Costs: Basic Student Charges, 2-Year Institutions, 1983-84") were identified. These institutions were cross-checked against the 1986 AACJC Directory No. 3., "Statistical Analysis," to determine AACJC membership and most currently available full-time and part-time enrollment.

A total of 244 institutions with current residence hall systems were identified, 82 private and 162 public institutions. A questionnaire was sent to the Chief Executive Officer of these 244 institutions in June 1987, with a followup to nonrespondents in August. A total of 114 useable responses were

received (46.7%). Nine colleges had discontinued their residence hall program or were no longer operating as junior colleges.

Results which follow are based on the responses of 77 public and 27 private two-year colleges.

Summary of Findings

- The concentration of public institutions with residence halls is found in the South (Alabama, Mississippi, Texas) and in states with relatively low population concentration per square mile - i.e., those states with "wide open spaces" (Texas, Nebraska, Arizona, Colorado, Kansas, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Wyoming).

- The largest public institution dormitory systems were found in California. In Kansas, Texas, and Mississippi, MOST of the public institutions operated residence halls.

- In the northeast sector, most of the institutions with residence halls were private institutions. The exception appears to be New York, where six branches of SUNY A&T operated residence halls.

Scope and Size

- Housing systems at two-year colleges tend to be small. Eighty percent of the survey respondents had less than 500 beds assigned (fall semester 1987). The three systems larger than 1,200 beds were Vincennes University Vincennes, IN (N=2,168); Ricks College, Rexburg, ID (N=1,360) and Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College, Tifton GA (N=1,130).

- Full time enrollment at virtually all of these institutions declined between 1985 and 1987. Only 25 of the responding institutions reported occupancy levels below 80%. Fourteen reported currently unused halls; nineteen were planning additional construction within the next ten years.

- The majority of the housing systems did their own maintenance/custodial services in-house (92.2%). About sixty percent contracted out food service, and 41% utilized in-house services.

Specialized Housing

- CO-ED housing was available on 39 campuses (28%) and will be discontinued at three campuses.

- 31 campuses have QUIET FLOORS and they are planned at seven more campuses. Two colleges plan to discontinue quiet floors.

- Special housing for ATHLETES was reported by 38 schools. It is planned by one school and two campuses plan to discontinue it.

- 17 campuses have housing for MARRIED STUDENTS. Four more plan it and two plan to discontinue it.

- Twelve colleges report special housing for INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS. Two plan to enlarge their programs, one to add a program and two to discontinue specialized housing for international students.

- Four campuses report institutionally-operated SORORITIES/FRATERNITIES. Two of these campuses plan to discontinue it; a fifth plans to add it.

- Three campuses report specialized housing which is accessible to the HANDICAPPED. Two more report this as a pressing challenge.

- Specialized housing for HONORS STUDENTS was reported by four campuses.

- Seventy campuses reported CONFERENCE HOUSING during the summer; four more are planning it. Five institutions reported year-round conference housing. Two of the campuses with unused residence halls reported plans to convert it/them to conference housing.

Programming

What programs/services are available within your housing systems? Do you plan to add, maintain, enlarge, or discontinue these?

A. Academic/Academic Support

• STUDY LOUNGES are available on 72 of the reporting campuses. Four more campuses plan to add them.

• Thirty-six of the campuses report TUTORING in the residence halls; two more will add this.

• Seventeen campuses reported COMPUTER TERMINALS in the forms; sixteen more campuses have them planned. Funding was the major limitation.

• CREDIT CLASSES (in the residence halls) were reported at two colleges and planned at a third college. DORM LIBRARIES reported in three colleges and planned in two more.

B. Health Issues

• ALCOHOL AND DRUG ABUSE emerged as one of the major concerns in junior college residence halls programs. Seventy-eight (75%) of the respondents reported education programs, and eight more were planning them. Six of the private church-related schools reported that this was "usually not a problem" on their campuses, but four reported educational programs either currently available or in the planning process. Fifty-nine schools reported intervention programs currently available, and six more will have them soon.

• EATING DISORDER programs were available at 33 colleges and planned at five more.

• WELLNESS OR FITNESS PROGRAMS were active at 47 colleges and planned at five more. Four colleges are enlarging their wellness/fitness programs.

C. Recreation and other support

• Seventeen campuses reported WEIGHT ROOMS in their residence halls. One will discontinue this and two are planning them.

• Nine campuses volunteered TV/VCR rooms as recreational facilities. Ten volunteered POOL/BILLARDS rooms and eight GAME OR RECREATION ROOMS.

• Four colleges reported COUNSELING CENTERS in the residence hall. One reported a CHAPEL as an additional support program.

Organization and Management Issues

Have you, or are you preparing, policies regarding the following:

- Three-forths or more of the respondents reported having, or being in the process of developing, policies relating to:

Room Assignments	Fire and Safety
Billing/Payment	Damage and Vandalism
Alcohol/Drug Abuse	Residence Hall Security
Discipline/judicial system	

- At least half of the respondents reported having or having under development policies relating to:

A RH Handbook	Housing Contract
Room Search by Staff	
Open visitation	
Room search by staff	

- A great deal of activity currently seems to be underway regarding development and implementation of policies in these areas:

Assessing student satisfaction
Energy conservation
Resident Grade Point Average
Institutional charge-backs to auxiliary funds for general services

Thirty-two institutions indicated that they currently have and are willing to share their policy statements. They are identified below.

The Greatest Challenges Facing Community and Junior College Residential Housing Systems for the Next Five Years

• The most frequently mentioned challenge was DRUG/ALCOHOL ABUSE (N=36). Recent changes in the drinking age in several states was frequently mentioned.

• FINANCE is a major concern. Meaningful COST/EFFICIENT PROGRAMS was mentioned by 30 colleges. The cost of RENOVATION was cited by seven responses; and of ENERGY OR MAINTENANCE eight respondents.

• Maintaining OCCUPANCY RATES was cited by 18 colleges. Five campuses reported DECLINING ENROLLMENT as a major challenge. Eight reported COMPETITION from area rental units or neighboring colleges as a major problem. RETENTION was mentioned six times.

• PROGRAMMING is a major issue. Programming for an increasingly DIVERSE POPULATION was cited by 14 colleges. The continuing need to develop SELF-DISCIPLINE among a very young population was indicated as a challenge by thirteen colleges.

• DAMAGE/VANDALISM was a major challenge at nine colleges, and SECURITY in the residence halls at 7. Eight colleges reported needing MORE SPACE, and seven reported the need for housing for NONTRADITIONAL STUDENTS. HANDICAPPED ACCESS was listed twice.

Are the Needs and Concerns of the Two-Year College Different from those of the Four-Year College?

• Although six respondents felt that the problems and concerns were essentially the same, ten others felt that there were major differences at two-year schools. Among the differences cited were:

1. Lack of (upper division) positive role models
2. Short period of time in which to make a positive impact on the students;
3. Wider demographic heterogeneity among the junior college student;
4. Frequently lower academic preparation of the incoming student;
5. Students frequently have lower academic aspirations
6. Larger amount of career indecisiveness among this group;
7. Larger degree of unrealistic career aspirations;
8. Poorer goal-attainment orientation among students; and
9. Weaker pool of applicants for residence halls professional and support staff (due to lack of upper division and graduate programs).

Is there a need for an organization (or clearing house) devoted specifically to the two-year residential housing community?

• Seven said "no need", that their needs were currently met by either IACRAO or its regional affiliates, or by their own personal network.

• Six said that existing organizations (IACRAO) should be urged to pay more attention to the specific needs of two-year--particularly rural, small, private and/or church-related--systems. It should be noted that the current (1987) ACUHO directory lists only SIX AACJC institutions among its members.

• Thirty-four indicated that a separate organization or clearing house would have some merit.

If there were such an organization, would you be interested in participation?

Very interested	9	interested	52
Perhaps	19	Not Interested	11
No response	14		

If there were such an organization, what services would you like to see offered?

1. Clearinghouse of information
2. Regional workshops/conferences: current issues, staff orientation development; legal issues
3. Materials especially directed toward small or church-related programs
4. Innovative, effective, low-cost ideas
5. Policies that worked; things that DIDN'T work (and why)
6. Job announcements/vacancies
7. Directory

Types of Policies

1. Residence Hall Handbook
2. A housing contract
3. Open visitation hours
4. Disciplinary/judicial systems
5. Damage and vandalism
6. Alcohol/drug abuse
7. Room assignments
8. Billing/payment
9. Institutional charge-back for general services
10. Fire and safety
11. Energy conservation
12. Residence hall security
13. Room search by staff
14. Residence grade point average
15. Assessing student satisfaction

Willing To Share Policies

	Number of Beds Assigned Fall 1987	Willing to Share (See Legend Above)
I. Public		
1. Arkansas State University-Beeb Branch Beebe Branch Beebe, AK 72012 Ben Pickard, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs 501-882-6452	99	1 2 5 6 10 13
2. Snead State Junior College Boaz, AL 35957 Bill Osborn, President 205-593-5120	87	3 4 5 6 7 8 10 12 13
3. Yavapai College Prescott, AZ 86301 Paula Grutzmacher-Simpson, Director of Campus Life 602-445-7300	347	1 2 15

	Number of Beds Assigned Fall 1987	Willing to Share (See Legend Above)
4. Bakersfield Community College Bakersfield, CA 93305 Kathleen M. Rosellini, Director of Student Affairs 805-395-4355	104	1 Also Calendar, Brochure
5. Sierra Community College Rocklin, CA 95677 Melody Trujillo, Housing Supervisor 916-624-3333 Ext. 2435	150	1 2 3 5 6 7 8 9 12 Also Programming Handbook and RA Training Manual
6. College of the Siskiyous Weed, CA 96094 Jim Arack, V.P. Student Services 916-938-4462-Ext. 215	140	1 2 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 12 13 14 15 Also Dorm Control Board
7. Lamar Community College Lamar, CO 81052 Marvin E. Lane, President 303-336-2248	115	1 2 3 4 5 8 13 14 15 Also RH Handbook
8. Vincennes University Junior College Vincennes, IN 47591 Patricia Jost, Dir. of Housing 812-885-4225	2,168	1 2 3 5 6 7 8 10 12 13 14 15 Also RH Director's Manual Residence Hall Brochure
9. North Iowa Area Community College Mason City, IA 50401 Director of Housing 515-423-1264	480	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 10 11 12 13 14 15
10. Cloud County Community College Concordia, KS 66901 Jerome LeTourneau, Dean of Student Services 913-243-1435	230 (Apartments)	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
11. New Hampshire Technical Institute Concord, NH 03301 Jan Sullivan Curtis, Director of Residence Life 603-225-1862	210	1 2 4 5

	Number of Beds Assigned Fall 1987	Willing to Share (See Legend Above)
12. Mid-Plains Technical Community College Area North Platte, NB 69101 William G. Hasemeyer, President 308-534-9265	116	1 2 3 4 5 6 10 11 12 13 15
13. North Dakota State College of Science Wahpeton, ND 58075 Michael D. Johnson, Director, Residential Services 701-761-2194	1,247	2 3 4 5 13
14. SUNY College of Technology at Farmingdale Farmingdale, N.Y. 11735 Walter A. Schnell, Asst. V.P. Student Affairs 516-420-2702	927	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
15. SUNY College of Technology at Canton Canton, NY 13617 Daniel Sweeney, Director of Residential Life 315-386-7513	1,122	1 2 3 5 7
16. Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College Miami, OK 74354 Bobby J. Hayes, Director of Housing 918-542-8441	998	1 2 Also job descriptions, Calendar of Events, Other administrative documents
17. Treasure Valley Community College Ontario, OR 97914 Bernie Babock, Housing Director 503-889-6493	82	1 2 4 5 6 10 12 13
18. Howard County Junior College District Big Spring, TX 79720 Cheri T. Sparks, V.P. for Student Life 915-267-6311	327	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 10 12 13 15
19. Odessa College Odessa, TX 79764 Dr. Roy H. Hart, Dean of Student Services 915-335-6430	165	1 2 4 5

	Number of Beds Assigned Fall 1987	Willing to Share (See Legend Above)
	1,501 (Residence Halls and Apartment Buildings)	
20. Texas State Technical Institute Waco, TX 76705 Jerry Bayer, Supervisor of Housing and Dormitories 817-799-3611		1 2 3 4 5 7 8 10 11 12 13
	192	
21. Weatherford College Weatherford, TX 76086 Arthur G. Stockstill, Dean of Student Services 817-594-5471		1 2 3 6 7 8
	150	
22. Sheridan College Sheridan, WY 82801 Linda L. Slack, Director of Institutional Research 307-674-6446		1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 15

II. Private

	140	
23. Lees College Jackson, KY 41339 Basil B. Clark, Dean of Students 606-666-7521		1 2 5 6 7 8 10 13 15
	260	
24. Bethany Lutheran College Mankato, MN 56001 Marvin G. Meyer, President 507-625-2977		"Student Handbook and History of the World"
	933 (Coed; an almost entirely residential campus)	
25. Chowan College Murfreesboro, NC 27855 Clayton Lewis, Dean of Students 919-398-4101		1 2 4 5 6 7 10 12 13 15
	435 (women only)	
26. Peace College Raleigh NC 27604 M. Janice Edwards, Dean of Students 919-832-2881		1 2 4 6

	Number of Beds Assigned Fall 1987	Willing to Share (See Legend Above)
27. Paul Smiths College Paul Smiths NY 12970 Rob Lutomski, Director of Residence Life 518-327-6222	717	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 10 12 13 15
28. Kettering College of Medical Arts Kettering, OH 45429 Ms. Sherry Nelson, Residence Hall Dean 513-296-7201	152	1 2 6
29. Keystone Junior College LaPlume, PA 18440 Karen VanNorman, 717-945-5141	473	1 2 4 5 6 7 8 10 12 13 14 15 Also professional staff handbook
30. Mount Aloysius Junior College Cresson, PA 16630 Robert H. Rusbosin, Dean of Student Services 814-886-4131	200	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 10 12 13 15
31. Pinebrook Junior College Coopersburg, PA 18036 Carl C. Cassel, President 215-282-4000	120	1 3 4 5 6 7 8 10 12 14
32. Anderson College Anderson, SC 29621 Mark Hopkins, President Sidney Kerr, Assoc. Dean of Students 803-231-2100	633	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 10 12 13 15

Summary of Responses

Residence Halls Systems at Community and Junior Colleges

Conducted by Vincennes University Junior College
Vincennes, IN 48591
Dr. Jeanne E. Budig, Assistant to the President for Research and Planning

Do you operate a Residence Hall Program? (105) Yes (9) No

I. Scope and Size of Residence Hall program:

Number of beds assigned for fall 1987:

1-100	6	501- 599	6
101-300	53	601-1199	53
301-500	21	1299-1999	3

	In-house	Contracted
Maintenance/Custodial	92.2%	7.8%
Food service	40.8%	59.2%

Specialized Housing:

	Available	Planned	Maintain	Enlarge	Discontinue	No/Not Applicable
International	9	1	1	2	2	66
Athletes	23	1	5	0	2	52
Quiet Floors	26	7	4	1	2	46
Coed	30	1	8	1	3	48
Married students	15	4	2	0	1	68
Families	10	2	1	0	1	60
Institutionally-operated sororities or fraternities	2	1	0	0	2	70
Other:						
Honors	4					
Handicapped	3					
Miscellaneous	4					
Conference housing?						
Year round	5	2	2	1	2	32
Summer only	65	4	5	1	1	20

Scope and Size of Residence Hall Program (Continued)

New residence hall planned? (86) No (19) Yes Year: By 1990: 13
1990-2000: 6

Currently unused residence hall(s)? (91) No (14) Yes

Plans for utilization: conversion, sale/lease, etc.

(Fall 1987)
Room and Board rates

Meal Plans

NOTE: There was too much variation in responses to provide meaningful information regarding room and board plans and rates per week

II. Programming

What programs/services are available within your housing systems? Do you plan to add, maintain, enlarge, or discontinue these?

	Available	Planned	Maintain	Enlarge	Discontinue	No/Not Applicable
Tutoring	32	3	2	2	0	44
Credit classes	2	1				66
Hall libraries	2	2	1			66
Study lounges	59	4	6	7	0	17
Computer terminal	15	16		2	0	39
Other academic support:						
Typing room	1	1				
Counseling	2					
Alcohol/drug abuse						
Education	72	8	3	3	0	13
Intervention	54	6	2	3	0	21
Wellness/fitness	42	5	1	4	0	27
Eating disorders	30	5	1	2	0	36
Recreational facilities in dorms:						
Weight rooms	16	2	0	1	1	54
Game/Recreation	8					
Pool/billiards	10					
TV, VCR	9					
Other support programs:						
Counseling	4					
Chapel	1					

III. Organization and Management Issues

Have you, or are you preparing, policies regarding:

	Have	Being Developed	Will Share
Residence Hall Handbook	53	4	35
A housing contract	58	0	35
Open visitation hours	54	2	20
Disciplinary/judicial systems	69	3	23
Damage and vandalism	72	2	25
Alcohol/drug abuse	71	7	21
Room assignments	75	3	18
Billing/payment	73	1	17
Institutional charge-backs to auxiliary funds for general services	33	4	3
Fire and safety	72	4	19
Energy conservation	34	13	4
Residence hall security	68	6	16
Room search by staff	58	4	19
Resident grade point average	26	7	8
Assessing student satisfaction	42	15	15
Other:			
RH Director's Manual			1
Programming Handbook			1
RA Training Manual			1

IV. What do you consider to be the greatest challenges facing community and junior college residential housing systems for the next five years?

1. Health issues: drugs/alcohol abuse (36) AIDS (7)
2. Finance: cost control (30); energy and/or maintenance (8) renovation (7)
3. Staffing/staff development (18)
4. Programming for more diverse students (14); developing self-discipline (13); damage/vandalism (9)
5. Maintaining occupancy rate (18); retention (6); competition from rental units and other colleges (8)

V. Although about one-fourth of the nation's community and junior colleges operate residential housing systems, there is presently no organization or central clearing house for information. If there were one, would you be interested in participation?

Very Interested	9	Interested	52
Maybe/Perhaps	19	Not Interested	11
No response		14	

What services would you like to see offered?

1. Focus on unique problems of junior colleges and appropriate for small, rural, perhaps church-related colleges.
2. Clearinghouse/sharing of information
3. Periodic newsletter
4. Conferences/seminars/workshops: legal issues, staff development
5. Job announcements

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